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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-65. (canceled)

66. (currently amended) A method of forming a battery, comprising:

arranging battery components such that

an electrode is in electrical communication with a pin,

an electrode is electrically insulated from the pin,

a tab provides electrical communication between an end cap and the

electrode that is electrically isolated from the pin,

the electrodes are positioned in a case and are wound around the pin, and

the end cap is configured to close an opening in the case;

transporting electrolyte through the opening and into the case while resting the end cap on the case with an edge of the case between a portion of the tab and a portion of the end cap and the tab extends from the electrodes in the case over an edge of the case positioned between the tab and the case, the edge defining the opening; and
sealing the opening with the end cap.

67. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the tab is connected to the end cap such that resting the end cap on the case holds the end cap in an orientation that is substantially perpendicular to the opening.

68. (currently amended) The method of claim 66, wherein a weld connects a flat portion of the tab to an inner face of the end cap.

69. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein:
the end cap has a radius; and

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the opening is sealed with the cap such that the tab is positioned adjacent to the end cap without being connected to the end cap for a distance that is greater than the radius.

70. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the tab is connected to a connection location on the end cap and the end cap is rested on the case such that the connection location is above a center point on the end cap.

71. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein:

the end cap has a radius; and

the end cap is rested on the case such the end cap overlaps the case by at least an amount that exceeds the radius.

72. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the opening is sealed with the end cap such that the tab extends from a first location adjacent to the case past a center point of the end cap to a second location where the tab is electrically connected to the end cap.

73. (previously presented) The method of claim 72, wherein the tab is not connected to the end cap continuously over a distance extending from the first location to the second location.

74. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the electrodes are electrode strips wound around the pin so as to form a spiral role on the pin.

75. (previously presented) The method of claim 74, wherein the spiral role includes at least one separator separating the electrodes.

76. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein a mandrel is mounted on the pin such that the electrodes are wound around the pin and the mandrel.

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77. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel includes a longitudinal slot; and wherein

one of the electrodes is in electrical communication with the pin and also extends through the mandrel slot.

78. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the electrodes in electrical communication with the pin includes a region that is positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

79. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the electrodes in electrical communication with the pin includes active material positioned on a substrate, the substrate is positioned between the mandrel and the pin without the active material being positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

80. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel is crimped onto the pin.

81. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein a weld attaches the mandrel to the pin.

82. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel includes titanium or an alloy of titanium.

83. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel includes a tube.

84. (previously presented) The method of claim 80, wherein the pin is positioned in an interior of the tube.

85. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel has a c-shaped cross-section.

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86. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel is fitted around the pin such that the electrodes are wound around the pin and the mandrel.

87. (previously presented) The method of claim 76, wherein the mandrel is a reinforcing mandrel.

88. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein at least one weld directly connects the pin the electrode in electrical communication with the pin.

89. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the pin includes of a PtiR alloy.

90. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the end cap includes
an electrical insulator,
the pin extends through the electrical insulator, and
the pin is hermetically sealed to the electrical insulator.

91. (previously presented) The method of claim 66, wherein the case is electrically conducting.

92. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the end cap is rested on the case such that the tab extends over a portion of the edge that is between the end cap and the portion of the tab.

93. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the end cap is rested on the case such that the tab terminates above the edge.

94. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the tab does not extend from over the edge to a location between the case and the end cap.